

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Please amend paragraph [0040] of the specification, which corresponds to page 15, line 4 of the originally filed application, as follows:

~~FIG. FIGs. 1 (a)-(f) are is a view of views illustrating~~ a production process, which schematically show ~~shows~~ an example of the method for producing a membrane-electrode structure of the present invention;

Please amend paragraph [0048] of the specification, which corresponds to page 16, line 14 of the originally filed application, as follows:

~~FIG. FIGs. 9 (a)-(f) are is a view of views illustrating~~ a production process, which schematically show ~~shows~~ an example of the method for producing a membrane-electrode structure of the present invention;

Please amend paragraph [0055] of the specification, which corresponds to page 17, line 13 of the originally filed application, as follows:

Next, the method for producing a membrane-electrode structure of the present example will be described with reference to ~~FIG~~ FIGs. 1 (a)-(f).

Please amend paragraph [0075] of the specification, which corresponds to page 24, line 4 of the originally filed application, as follows:

Thereafter, using the sulfonated polyarylene based polymer represented by the above formula (1), a polymer electrolyte fuel cell was produced with the membrane-electrode structure 9 obtained by the production method in the present example, and another electrolyte fuel cell was produced with a membrane-electrode structure 10 shown in FIG. 15 [[7]] obtained by the same above production method with the exception that the hydrophilic layer 8 was not formed. Using the thus obtained polymer electrolyte fuel cells, electric power was generated, and terminal voltage and resistance overvoltage to current density were measured. A change in terminal voltage to current density is shown in FIG. 2, and a change in resistance overvoltage to current density is shown in FIG. 3.

Please amend paragraph [0085] of the specification, which corresponds to page 27, line 14 of the originally filed application, as follows:

Next, the method for producing a membrane-electrode structure of the present examples will be described with reference to FIG FIGs. 1 (a)-(f)

Please amend paragraph [0094] of the specification, which corresponds to page 30, line 16 of the originally filed application, as follows:

Thereafter, using the sulfonated polyarylene based polymer represented by the above formula (1), the following 3 types of membrane-electrode structures were prepared: a membrane-electrode structure 9 (Example 2) in which the

applied amount of the hydrophilic layer 8 after drying was set to 0.35 mg/cm²; another membrane-electrode structure 9 (Example 3) in which the applied amount of the hydrophilic layer 8 after drying was set to 0.70 mg; and another membrane-electrode structure 10 (Comparative example 2) as shown in FIG. 15 [[14]] in which the hydrophilic layer 8 was not formed at all. These 3 types of membrane-electrode structures were measured in terms of the maximum height Rmax of surface roughness, the ratio of the surface area to the unit area, and the differential pressure between one side of the diffusion electrode 4 and the other side thereof obtained when the air was supplied at a flow rate of 0.5 L/cm²/min in the direction of the thickness of the diffusion electrode 4. The results are shown in Table 1.

Please amend paragraph [0097] of the specification, which corresponds to page 32, line 1 of the originally filed application, as follows:

As shown in FIG. 1 (f) [[7]], since the membrane-electrode structures 9 (Examples 2 and 3) in which the hydrophilic layer 8 is formed have an excellent power generation efficiency, it is clear that an excellent adhesiveness is obtained between the electrode catalyst layer 3 and the diffusion electrode 5 in such membrane-electrode structures 9.

Please amend paragraph [0101] of the specification, which corresponds to page 33, line 5 of the originally filed application, as follows:

Next, the method for producing a membrane-electrode structure of the present examples will be described with reverence to FIG-FIGs. 9 (a)-(f).